

**Report to:** East Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board

**Date of meeting:** 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2020

**By:** Director of Public Health

**Title:** Annual Director of Public Health Report 2019/20: Health and Housing in East Sussex

**Purpose:** To introduce the annual report of the Director of Public Health 2019/20: Health and Housing in East Sussex

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## **RECOMMENDATION**

**The Board is recommended to endorse the annual report of the Director of Public Health**

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### **1 Background & Supporting information**

1.1 It is a statutory requirement for the Director of Public Health to publish an annual report. The 2019/20 Annual Report of the Director of Public Health focuses on Health and Housing in East Sussex. Housing is an important determinant of health, alongside employment and social connections with family, friends and others. Access to healthcare is responsible only for a relatively small part of what makes us healthy. In order to improve the health and wellbeing of East Sussex residents and to reduce inequalities, the broader determinants of health need to be addressed. The draft report is attached at Appendix 1. This will be subject to further minor typographical and formatting checks but no changes are planned to the proposed content, subject to the view of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

1.2 This report seeks to identify and discuss the main influences that housing has on population health. The report consists of a range of evidence, robust data, case studies, and further qualitative data and analysis from discussion with a range of staff, key stakeholders and organisations. The report does not address all aspects of health and housing and does not include prisoners, refugees, women's refuges and substance misuse. These issues remain important but are being dealt with outside the scope of this report.

1.3 The purpose of the report is to:

- Develop a broader understanding of the relationship between health and wellbeing
- Support and enhance integrated working across housing, health, public health and social care
- Support partnership working to help address and mitigate local housing challenges
- Support ongoing joint work to prevent homelessness and rough sleeping and to mitigate the harms that these cause

1.4 There are no specific financial implications attached to approving this report and its recommendations. More integrated working across housing, health, public health and social care will however ensure best use is made of public resources. Joint working will also help mitigate specific costs, for example by reducing demand for emergency and temporary accommodation and the increased costs associated with poor health due to homelessness and rough sleeping. In the longer term the stronger partnerships will support work to increase the quantity, quality and suitability of homes for individuals and families, hence improving the health and wellbeing of people living in East

Sussex and bringing economic benefit to the area.

## **2 Conclusion**

2.1 The recommendations in the report address collaboration across East Sussex as a whole, promotion of initiatives that will help ensure safe and healthy homes and personalising the support people require to improve their health. The Health and Wellbeing Board is therefore recommended to endorse the annual Director of Public Health report.

**DARRELL GALE**  
**Director of Public Health**

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### BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None